

Willits Weekly

EST. 2013
A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits
Donations Accepted Edition No. 52 **Thursday, May 1, 2014**



Small crowd says:

‘No new school bond’

Mike A'Dair
Reporter
mike@willitsweekly.com

A small but vocal crowd attended a special Wednesday meeting of the Willits school board to object to a proposal to issue a bond to pay off a July 2010 bond anticipation note (BAN) issued a few weeks after voter approval of Measure B.

District Superintendent Patricia Johnson explained the details of the proposal, reminding the public it had approved issuing up to \$43 million in bonds when it approved Measure B in June 2010.

When the district understood in October 2013 it would have to pay back \$4.9 million on the BAN in July of this year, it stopped work on the school facilities upgrade project, setting aside those funds to repay the note. So far, the school district has found \$4.2 million for the BAN payment, but still lacks \$735,000.

Johnson added there are three potential methods to raise funds.

The district could sell unused school district property located on East Commercial Street, next to Mendo Mill. Johnson said the asking price is \$290,000 and the district has received bids, to be opened at the May 7 board meeting. Any funds raised by that sale would be used to pay down the \$735,000.

The district also could borrow money from the Mendocino Office of Education. Johnson confirmed MCOE has agreed to loan the school district up to \$500,000 on favorable terms, with a 1 percent interest rate.

Or, in an alternative Johnson had not mentioned before, the district could use money from a settlement of its lawsuit against Caldwell, Flores and Winters, the financial consultants who advised the district on both Measure B and the facility upgrade project. That settlement is close, she said.

Area residents objected to issuing a second bond.

Willits Realtor Bill Barksdale recounted how the 2008 real estate collapse decreased his property value by about 40 percent, while a recent increase in his sewer bill has hurt his bank account.

"To keep adding to the tax burden is not sustainable," Barksdale said. "To add this additional burden on top of that loss, means that I have no retirement."

"From the day this bond measure came out, it never made any financial sense to me," said former school district trustee Bernard Kamoroff. "It just seemed like we were looking for

Read the rest of **Bond** |
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Environmentalists sue county over bypass fill permit

Dan McKee
Reporter
willitsweekly@gmail.com

Environmental groups on Friday sued Mendocino County, claiming the county violated its own regulations when it approved a use permit that would allow excavation of almost 900,000 cubic yards of soil to fill in wetlands at the site of the Willits bypass project's northern interchange.

"The use permit issued to Mendocino Forest Products states the excavation is for 'property improvement' related to an unidentified future project," according to a press release put out by the Willits Environmental Center and Keep the Code, the groups suing the county.

"The board of supervisors, with one exception – Supervisor [Dan] Hamburg – violated county laws by waiving reviews, process and mitigation requirements for the impacts of leveling 21 acres of hillside north of Willits," the press release continues.

"Mendocino County has a legal requirement for a reclamation plan if more than 1,000 cubic yards of soil material is moved. The MFP... project will excavate 900 times that amount. Yet the board of supervisors, at the recommendation of the [Mendocino] County Planning and Building Department, waived the requirement, claiming the proposed excavation was 'minimal.'"

Mendocino County will not comment on litigation.

The suit also claims soil from the old Apache Mill site is toxic and the county failed to examine possible environmental impacts before issuing the permit.

Caltrans spokesman Phil Frisbie said soil tested at the mill site did reveal elevated levels of chromium, arsenic and mercury, but said the contamination was not present at levels that would make it unsuitable for fill for the Willits bypass. Frisbie said soil testing was done in 2008 and again in March 2013. "The soil was tested for compaction properties and for basic contaminants," Frisbie wrote last year, in a post on Caltrans' official Willits Bypass Project News website. "One test sample tested high in chromium, and soil was not removed near that location. Some samples tested positive for diesel fuel, but in such a low concentration that it did not rule out its use."

WEC's Ellen Drell agreed the contamination levels were too low to be considered hazardous to human health.

However, Drell says she is concerned about what affect the contaminated

Read the rest of **Lawsuit** |
Over on Page 13

Making our Mark

Willits Weekly celebrates one-year anniversary this week

Ready for the Farmers Market, from left back: Maureen Moore, who holds our first edition, Jennifer Poole, Julia Gromek, who holds our 51st edition, Mike A'Dair, Zack Cinek and Roxie.

Photo prepped by Maureen Moore and taken by Holly Sears

How has it been a whole year already? It was just back on May 2, 2013, when Willits Weekly, the little independent startup newspaper, showed off its first edition at the first outdoor Farmers Market of the season. To say that it's been quite a year seems like a total understatement.

Co-founders Jennifer Poole and I, both being veterans of Media News Group, the corporation that owns many other newspapers in Mendocino County and across the nation, knew that things could be done

differently, could be done better. Now, with Willits Weekly's community-driven ideas and hyperlocal news and features, we feel we have achieved just that ... and the overwhelming support from the community proves it.

The paper's second year is looking strong already. Mike A'Dair and Zack Cinek continue to report on city and county happenings; we are thrilled to officially include a sales gal, Julia Gromek, on our roster; and designer Patsy Jordan is continuing to help with ad

Maureen Moore
Designer & Photographress
maureen@willitsweekly.com

Read the rest of **Willits Weekly** |

Over on Page 10



Holly Madrigal
707-841-0612
voteholly.com



Clay Romero
707-459-7530
clayromero.com



Tom Woodhouse
707-459-4677 / 707-367-6334
tomwoodhouseforsupervisor.com



Hal Wagenet
707-391-5101
halwagenet4supervisor.com

1. Why are you running for supervisor?

HOLLY MADRIGAL

The question could be why don't I have more competition? This position shapes the lives of all of us in this county. From water, mental health services, marijuana policy, law enforcement, to growing local business, the supervisor creates the infrastructure for how we work. It is your role to elect the supervisor who shapes the county the way you want. Some people are not involved, because they do not have a leader who empowers them to make a difference, but I will do that. Local politics really matter. I have the energy, the experience and the drive to move us forward.

3rd District supervisor candidates

Q&A

Willits Weekly asked each of the four candidates for 3rd District supervisor nine questions, with a 100 word limit for each answer. Here are the answers to the first five questions from Holly Madrigal, Clay Romero, Hal Wagenet and Tom Woodhouse. Answers to the last four questions will be printed in the May 8 edition of Willits Weekly

CLAY ROMERO

I enjoy serving people with honor and a sense of duty. This quality is a regular part of who I am.

I have been interested in local government for many years and have a passion for following through on every detail. I believe I may

When Mike Tobin dropped out of the race, he was the first to sign my nomination papers and began supporting me immediately. That was the final inspiration, for Mike is a man of principle and devoted to community improvement. I sit on six non-profit boards, improving economy

HAL WAGENET

be among the few people who really enjoys reading through budgets and other governmental writings. I have a good grasp on both legal and practical applications of government. Personally, I look forward to getting health care benefits. People can get to know me better on my campaign web site: www.clayromero.com.

Read the rest of

Q&A

Over on Page 13

What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from readers

Thanks to firefighters

To the Editor:

I experienced a first last month when the Brooktrails Fire Department responded to a working house fire next door to my home. I am a career firefighter, so I am used to fires, only I'm usually the one responding, not the one in need of assistance.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank the men and women of the Brooktrails Fire Department along with the members of the Little Lake Fire District who responded to the incident. They did an outstanding job in suppressing the fire and protecting my home.

This incident also reminded me of the support the Fire Department needs so they can keep supporting us. I have read numerous letters in the paper of late addressing the upcoming Measure K on the ballot. I would just like to say that \$99 a year is a small price to pay for some great peace of mind that if you call 9-1-1, someone will show up in your time of need with the proper gear, training, and equipment to handle your emergency. I urge all residents of Brooktrails, owners and renters, to vote yes on Measure K! You just might need their help someday.

Justin Buckingham, Brooktrails

A Vote for Tom Woodhouse

To the Editor:

When I first heard that Tom Woodhouse would be running for 3rd District Supervisor, I had a hard time believing it.

Tom has always accomplished his goals for Willits without an official title. He served as a member of the Willits High School Site Council for the past 20 (yes, 20) years. He finds homes in town where the owners are unable to keep up their yards, and then he and a great group of volunteers do their mowing. In addition to this he is committed to removing graffiti, cleaning the creeks, and making Willits a beautiful little town we can be proud of. You usually won't hear about these "behind the scene" happenings, because when Tom sees a need he just fixes it.

Tom's concerns are not just Willits but the county as a whole. He has lived in Mendocino County for 40 years and through his work as a real estate broker, he has financial knowledge, business insight for fiscal responsibility and a trait I feel very important, integrity. Tom does his homework and by meeting with key people throughout the county, he is able to find what we are challenged with. Many people stop by his office just to voice their opinion, and he listens.

I know Tom from working with the Willits Friends of the Library. Every year he would travel out of the area to collect books at his own expense and haul them in for the annual sales. It was a time when the library was in dire need of funding. Tom understands the importance of the library and its role in our community.

In closing, an important concern of mine is the future of our children when living in a rural area like Mendocino County. Tom is an advocate for vocational training, mentoring programs and job creation. With his plans for the future, just maybe, our children will be able to find work close to home.

Personally, I am very happy he did decide to run, and I will feel honored to vote for him.

Lena Hofmaister, Willits

Firefighter safety

To the Editor:

As a Brooktrails resident supporting Special Fire Tax Measure K on the June 3 primary ballot, I agree with the comprehensive arguments made in favor of Measure K in previous letters.

Above all, my concern is for the safety and efficiency of the Brooktrails firefighters who "voluntarily" put themselves in harm's way on our behalf.

We have a moral and ethical responsibility to adequately equip and support our volunteer fire department to enable it to safely and efficiently do its difficult and dangerous job.

If approved, Measure K would provide adequate funds to replace unsafe protective gear and obsolete equipment.

I urge all registered voters in Brooktrails to vote Yes on Measure K.

Don Morris, Brooktrails

Vote Holly Madrigal

To the Editor:

For the first time in many years, there is no incumbent running for the 3rd District supervisor seat on the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors, which means that no matter who wins, our district will be represented by a new face on the board.

Of the four candidates running for this seat – Holly Madrigal, Clay Romero, Hal Wagenet and Tom Woodhouse – it is clear to me that Holly Madrigal has the knowledge and experience to best represent the interests of the people of the 3rd District as we move forward into an uncertain and challenging future.

Madrigal's superior understanding of the issues facing Mendocino County became quite apparent over the course of the Candidates Night held in Laytonville on April 24. To me, the three most important issues addressed at this forum were county water resources, economic development and the Willits bypass.

On water, Madrigal presented a clear picture of how our county government can respond to the extreme drought conditions we've been experiencing over these past three years, having been recognized by the state for her management of the water crisis in Willits as the city's mayor. None of the other candidates offered any new ideas or actual accomplishments in water management.

Interestingly, Madrigal was the only one of the four candidates drinking water from her own reusable container, while the others drank from the throw-away plastic bottles that litter our streams and rivers. Madrigal gets water!

On economic development, Madrigal was the only candidate willing to recognize the elephant in the room, that cannabis is a major economic driver in this county and that the soon-to-be legalization of marijuana is going to have profound effects on this industry. While Madrigal sees county government working with producers to keep Mendocino County as a premier growing region in the world, Wagenet and Woodhouse see pot as under state and federal jurisdiction and out of county control, and Romero is set to mount a crusade by county law enforcement to root out the devil weed.

On the Willits bypass, Madrigal has resigned herself to the reality of this destructive project and sees her job as a supervisor to try and mitigate the worst of the environmental and economic impacts to the Little Lake Valley and the City of Willits. The other three candidates fell all over themselves in wholehearted support of the bypass, while showing no remorse over its collateral damage.

I have had very little personal contact with any of the candidates, but in the few times I've spoken with Holly Madrigal, I've gotten the impression that she was actually listening to me; the last time Hal Wagenet was our supervisor I got the impression that he thought he already knew everything. Although I've never met Tom Woodhouse, he seemed like a nice guy on Candidates Night, but as it turns out, most of his campaign contributions are coming from Willits businessmen, which makes me wonder who he's really going to represent. And then there's Clay Romero, I'm not sure who he represents, but it ain't me.

Vote Holly Madrigal: she's the only candidate with a practical vision to guide Mendocino County into the 21st century.

Jon Spitz, Laytonville

Where are the WW boxes?

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Old Mission Pizza | 5. Ardella's Downtown Diner |
| 2. Brewed Awakening | 6. Scoops |
| 3. Ace Copy and Shipping | 7. J.D. Redhouse |
| 4. Willits Post Office | 8. The Country Skillet |

Willits pioneers new online WeJIT

To the Editor:

As we know, our Willits community is facing a big drought, and water use is an issue that all of us must address. Related issues include Caltrans' use of water for the bypass construction with its impact on our valley's wetlands.

On June 3, Brooktrails will be voting on Measure K. Keeping Brooktrails safe from fires is also a water issue, since passing Measure K will enable the township to purchase a much-needed water tender and firefighting equipment and to fund hazard abatement programs.

Previous attempts at organizing our community have been live town hall meetings or letters to the editor. Whilst these approaches are useful, they only attract a minority of residents and have not been effective at galvanizing the greater community into discussion that gets results.

To promote greater citizen engagement, Willits is pioneering a new online technology called WeJIT. It's super easy to use and allows this water issue (or any individual issue, for that matter) to be broadly available for community comments and advisory votes, all in one place online – a single URL location, where citizens can exercise their voices and their votes.

Since posting the WeJIT on the question: "Should Caltrans downsize the northern interchange of the Willits bypass?," already almost 200 people have participated. Even opposing sides agree that this unique forum is a great way to give everyone a chance to weigh in and discuss this issue. You can participate by pasting this link in your computers' browser.

<http://www.mywejit.com/#15fd5f667b2fcad0bc2b7ebd8cf50df0b>

For Brooktrails residents the Measure K WeJIT link is:

<http://www.mywejit.com/#175dfe6c2480b4425fc7827ceb8a1cd3a>

The WeJIT can and should be shared with everyone in Willits. Special features include a photo and a link to a document on the issue being discussed. Most importantly, you can use a "share link" button on the page to share the WeJIT with friends by email, Twitter and Facebook.

Earlier this year I read "Citizenville: How to Take the Town Square Digital and Reinvent Government," Gavin Newsom's remarkable book about the revolution underway in politics and government. He makes a convincing case that the revolution is being powered by new technology.

In "Citizenville," Newsom writes: "In the private sector and in our personal lives, absolutely everything has changed in the last decade. In government, however, very little has. For the first time in history, anyone with a smart phone has all the world's information in the palm of their hand. Millions of Americans can find hours every day to tweet, blog, post reviews and communicate on social networking sites. Yet in 2011, only 12 percent of registered voters in Los Angeles found time to cast a ballot."

The WeJIT is the practical way to realize Newsom's vision to engage us all on the issues of the day, and Willits is showing the way. Not for the first time, we in Northern California are pioneering the future and it's already here.

Brian Weller, Brooktrails

Correction

In Willits Weekly's April 24 story, "Measure K meeting draws small crowd," the price quoted for protective gear for firefighters was incorrect: Chief Daryl Schoeppner said one pair of protective gear, including pants and jacket, costs \$1,700 to \$1,800, not \$17,000 to \$18,000.

At right: Rob Casey, owner/instructor at M3A, with students, left to right, Dylan Foley, Bella Sierra and Aiden Orion, and co-owner Demarie.

Photos by Jennifer Poole

M3A offers martial arts and self-defense to men, women and kids



OBITUARY | Ray Beach

Ray Beach

Ray Beach of Willits passed away on March 29, 2014 at the age of 94.

A native of Humboldt, Iowa, Ray was born August 4, 1919. A former resident of Santa Rosa and Redwood Valley, he had been a member of the Willits community since 1972.

Ray was a cowboy, home builder, self-employed real estate investor, and banker for 70 years. He enjoyed his work and a few beers afterward with his friends. He believed in the American dream of home ownership and touched the lives of many from San Francisco to Willits by helping them realize their dream to afford a home.

Ray was proud of his military service, serving in the Coast Guard during World War II and in the Navy during the Korean War. He was a member of the American Legion for 55 years, and a former Rotarian.

All his adult life he moved north from San Francisco, staying ahead of the population growth. He finally settled in the small town of Willits for the friendly people, clean air, clean water, healthy garden and affordable property. He enjoyed working with his real estate colleagues and his service on the board of directors of the local title company.

Ray did things his way right to the end. His grip was firm, and his mind was sharp. His body just wore out. He lived a long and satisfying life, which ended gracefully by gently falling asleep one last time.

Ray is survived by his son Richard (Susan) and his daughter Beverly; his grandchildren David (Beth), Diana (Shane), Allicia (Kirk), Laura (Ea), and Ryan; and his great-grandchildren Kaeley, Rebecca, Grant, and Lewis.

"A Celebration of Life Memorial Service" officiated by Richard Beach is to be held at the Willits Senior Center on May 18 from 11 am to 2 pm, to be followed by a private gathering at the cemetery with Navy Military Honors and the American Legion.

At Ray's request, donations may be made to Holy Child Care Home, 419 Grove Street, Willits CA 95490, or to the Willits Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road, Willits CA 95490.

Arrangements under the care and direction of Anker-Lucier Mortuary.



There's a new martial arts dojo in Willits, Mendo Mixed Martial Arts, or M3A. Owner/instructor Robert Casey is skilled in a number of disciplines, and has been involved in martial arts for 20 years, starting when he was growing up in Sebastopol.

"Everything here is my custom blend of everything I've learned," Casey said. Men, women, students and kids – advanced students and beginners – are all welcome.

The offerings focus on mixed martial arts, known as "MMA," Brazilian jiu jitsu/wrestling and kickboxing/muay Thai. MMA is a full-contact combat sport using striking and grappling techniques from a variety of martial arts, and muay Thai is a martial art from Thailand.

The dojo teaches combat sports, including elite military style disciplines, but also self-defense and protection for everyday people. The difference? "In the sports there are rules," Casey said.

Co-owner Demarie is soon getting her pink belt in women's empowerment. The first women's self-defense / empowerment class is scheduled on Thursdays, from 5 to 6 pm. Bella Sierra, age 11, worked with Casey to demonstrate some

Read the rest of **M3A** | Over on Page 9

Left top: Bella, 11, demonstrates a self-defense technique with instructor Casey.

Left bottom: Dylan, 13, practices kick-boxing with the "banana bag" that Casey is holding.

Julia Gromek

Ad sales extraordinaire for Willits Weekly

As Willits Weekly moves into its second year, we are proud to now have a wonderful ad saleswoman, Julia Gromek, who is out and about helping merchants and the community to spread their advertising message.

Julia moved to Willits in 2005 and has been working as a massage therapist for her own clients and, recently, for Baechtel Creek Inn and Spa as well. Her son Danny, who will be 6 years old in June, attends Willits Elementary Charter School and enjoys reading, Legos and playing catch.

"It's been really nice getting to know the community more and more though my position with Willits Weekly," Julia said. "I'm kind of a shy person, and being able to open up conversations with merchants by talking about Willits Weekly has been a great way to get to know more about the businesses, their owners and staff, and the community as a whole."

Julia is available by phone at 489-3449 and email at advertising@willitsweekly.com. Feel free to contact her for information on Willits Weekly's very affordable print advertising and insertion rates or to get more information about Willits' only locally owned and independent newspaper.



Photo by Maureen Moore

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[ruh-tog-ruh-friss]

noun: Maureen Moore: a person who creates fabulous photo moments

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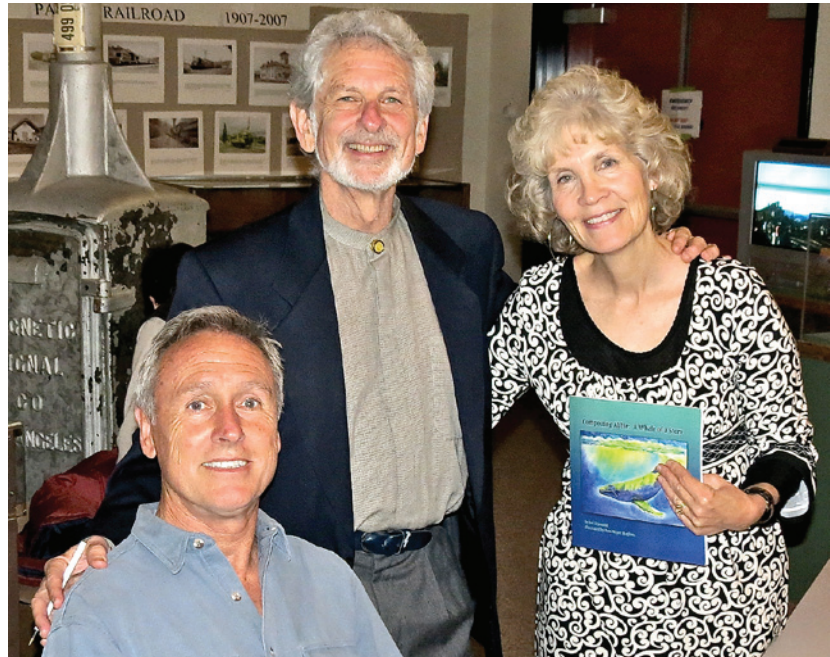
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Martin Mileck, Jed Diamond and Ann Maglente at the Museum book signing party
 Photo by Sandy Strong

There was a large crowd at the County Museum in Willits last Friday to join the party for the release and signing of a new book authored by local resident Jed Diamond and illustrated by another local, Ann Maglente. "Composting Abbie: A Whale of a Story" also features Martin Mileck of Cold Creek Compost in Potter Valley. Jerri-Jo Idarius of Willits did the layout and design work for the book.

The story began on October 19, 2009 when a 72-foot-long mother blue whale was killed after being struck by a survey boat under contract to NOAA about seven miles off the Mendocino coast. The huge whale washed ashore into a cove below the Botanical Gardens in Fort Bragg a few hours after the collision. The Marine Mammal Rescue Center was notified, and they came at once to the cove to begin studies on the huge mammal.

The resulting book is the story about how the tragic death of one of the world's largest animals was turned into something beneficial through composting the whale. The mammal was too large to pull back out to sea and what to do with its decomposing body posed a large problem. No one had ever tried to compost a whale before, but

A Whale of a Book Party for 'Composting Abbie'

Mileck thought he could do it. A team of community volunteers helped him make it a reality. Through his efforts, the whale was turned into compost for food and flowers.

Mileck feels that there is no such thing as waste. "Everything can, and should, be re-cycled," he says. Maglente agrees: "The time is now to re-use, re-cycle, compost and take care of our mother earth."

"Composting Abbie" is available in Willits at Rosalina Books & Antiques, the Book Juggler, Mariposa Market, and the Mendocino County Museum store, and online at Amazon. The story is recommended for children age 9 and up, as well as for adults, and as a "read-aloud" book for younger children.

– Sandy Strong

★ Meet Your Local ★ Candidates

3rd District Supervisor Candidates Forum

Meet the candidates for 3rd District Supervisor

Holly Madrigal ★ Clay Romero
Hal Wagenet ★ Tom Woodhouse

Wednesday, May 7 from 7 to 9 p.m.
 Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street, Willits

Bring your questions, learn the candidates' positions, and make an informed choice for the next 3rd District Supervisor.

Sheriff Tom Allman will moderate the forum.

The candidates have agreed to remain after the forum so you can meet them and discuss issues.

This forum is sponsored by the Willits Branch of the American Association of University Women, The Willits News, Willits Economic Localization, the Willits Chamber of Commerce, the Little Lake Grange, and Willits Weekly.

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Buddhist monks start

'Alms Rounds' in Willits

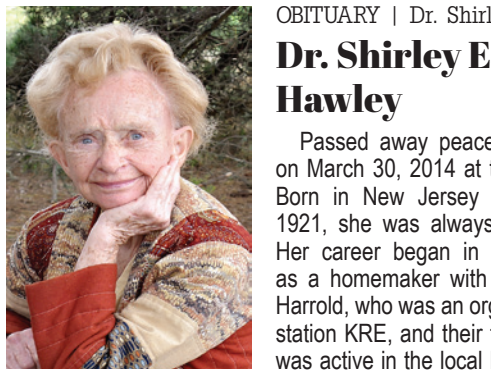
Monks from the Abhayagiri Buddhist Monastery in Redwood Valley did their first "alms rounds" in Willits this month.

Ajahn Yatiko and Ajahn Jotipalo were here April 14 and April 28, walking down Highway 101 in their saffron robes and with their begging bowls to collect food to take back to the monastery. ("Ajahn" is a Thai word meaning "teacher" and is a title given to monks with 10 years or more in the monastery.)

The monks will be visiting Willits on the new moon and full moon every month. Their next visit is set for Tuesday, May 13. They generally plan to have reached Mariposa Market, walking north, by about 9 am for a brief stop, and they are happy to meet and talk with anybody along the way.

"Traditional Buddhists do an alms round every day," Ajahn Yatiko said, "walking into town to get food." Monks are not allowed to touch money, and can't ask for food: they can only accept food that is freely offered. This tradition started more than 2,000 years ago, the monks said.

"We're not here to convert anybody," Ajahn Yatiko said. "We just make ourselves available for the offering of food and goodwill."



Obituary | Dr. Shirley E. Hawley

Passed away peacefully in Ukiah on March 30, 2014 at the age of 92. Born in New Jersey on August 8, 1921, she was always a free spirit. Her career began in Walnut Creek as a homemaker with her husband, Harold, who was an organist on radio station KRE, and their two boys. She was active in the local PTA and other volunteer groups, including being a

lifeguard and swim instructor.

When her children grew older, she became a student at UC Berkeley and eventually graduated with a medical degree in Internal Medicine from UC Irvine in 1965. She had a solo practice in Concord

DeWayne Marvin Wilson

Our beloved DeWayne Marvin Wilson of Laytonville Rancheria, a Cahto Tribal Member, born May 21, 1947, began his journey home on April 16, 2014.

He is preceded in death by his parents, David Wilson and Freda Rocky; and siblings Sharon and Daryl Wilson. He is survived by his partner of 30 years, Margaret Ruiz; his son DeWayne Marvin Wilson, Jr., aka Charlie Whipple; step-children: Elmer Jr., Brian and Georgia; grandchildren: Leah, Jesse, Ruben, McKenzie, Shawn & Regina Wilson; brother, Darnell, and sisters Charlotte and Karen Wilson; niece, Christy; and nephews Cory and Brad; Uncle Mervin Wilson, and aunts Elaine Rocky and Eloise Simpson; and many cousins.

DeWayne was known for his great laugh and fine-tuned ear for music, and melodies that got started by playing in a band called "Tequila Sunrise." He was a great ball player and sportsman. He enjoyed being around family and friends. With DeWayne, there was never a dull moment.

He survived the Vietnam war – Da Nang – from 1967-1969. After the war, he went to work for Harwood Lumber in Branscomb, then to the Red Fox Casino until he retired.

His recreation included hanging out with fun-loving company, playing music, and enjoying life. Loved by all who knew you, DeWayne, you will be forever missed.

Services were held Saturday, April 26, 2014 at the Cahto Tribal Community Center, with private interment at Cahto Tribal Cemetery. Arrangements under the care and direction of Anker-Lucier Mortuary.

Death Notice | Dr. Richard Wayne Peart

Dr. Richard Wayne Peart of Willits passed away on April 20, 2014 at the age of 62. A Celebration of Life will be held at the Recreation Grove Park in Willits on Saturday, May 10, 2014, from 12 to 6 p.m.

Arrangements under the care and direction of Anker-Lucier Mortuary.

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\$20 / entry / 21 and up Doors open at 9pm

Box Room: Medisin Selector Science Bridge Theory Acacia Beats Mighty Jacob

Psy Room: Irijacent Wichdoka Medisin DJ Dizzy DjVU vs. Druid

audio
 CORROBOREE
 FIVE YEAR ANNIVERSARY
 MAY 2ND, 2014 - BROOKTRAILS LODGE - WILLITS, CA



Right: Nan Trichler, left, offers bananas to monk Ajahn Yatiko, and Steve Keyes, right, offers yams to monk Ajahn Jotipalo.

After Willits residents Nan Trichler and Steve Keyes offered bananas and yams to the monks in front of Mariposa Market on their first visit in April, they said a brief blessing in Thai, translated roughly as: "May you be well and happy. May all blessings accrue to you: long life, health, wealth and beauty."

Keyes told Willits Weekly the monks were very pleased with their initial visits to Willits. They thought Willits was "very open and friendly," Keyes said, "and they are looking forward to coming back and getting to know more people." For more information about the Redwood Valley monastery – visitors are welcome – visit www.abhayagiri.org.

– Jennifer Poole

and later worked at Mendocino State Hospital in Talmage until it closed. Then she transferred to Napa State Hospital.

She retired and moved to Willits in 1984 after the birth of her grandson. Always active, she worked part-time at clinics in Lakeport and Covelo; was a substitute teacher for grades K-12, served two terms on the Mendocino Grand Jury and participated in many other volunteer efforts. She loved walking and hiking and had walked most of the California coastline as a longtime member of the California Coastwalkers, and served as their trail physician.

Her favorite activities revolved around being outdoors; she also liked to swim and bicycle and could hike eight to 10 miles a day into her mid-80s.

She was preceded in death by her husband 35 years earlier and is survived by her two sons, Rick (Anita) Hawley and Peter Hawley of Leggett, and grandson, Hank Hawley of Florida.

At her request no services were held. In her memory, her family encourages everyone to actively explore Nature!

VOTE "YES" ON MEASURE K AND KEEP BROOKTRAILS SAFE

WHY DO WE NEED MEASURE K?

- To purchase a Water Tender and other equipment, that is beyond repair or is unsafe.
- To fund hazard abatement programs, including maintenance of the greenbelt near your home.
- To maintain the Department's ability to respond to medical emergencies.
- To keep our First Responders supplied with necessary equipment for their 200 plus calls per year.
- To eliminate the Department need to 'borrow' approximately \$100,000 annually from the District.
- To restore the Department's reserves for emergency equipment replacement.
- Life saving equipment cannot be repaired and some of the personal safety gear is outdated and unsafe.

WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME?

- A safer home for you, your family and pets.
- A more fire-safe Township with adequate equipment for medical emergencies, rescues and fires.
- Keeping your costs of home insurance down.

WHAT HAPPENS IF MEASURE K DOESN'T PASS?

- The Brooktrails Fire Department may have to reduce its services.
- Firefighter personal protective equipment and breathing apparatus will fail.
- Without proper equipment the number of volunteer firefighters will be reduced.
- Fire abatement programs may be reduced and efforts may no longer be sufficient to prevent wildfires.
- Home insurance, if available at all, could rise significantly on your home.

WHO SUPPORTS THIS MEASURE?

- The Brooktrails Property Owners Association
- The Brooktrails Property Owners Association Women's Club
- The Brooktrails Community Alliance
- The Brooktrails Volunteer Firefighters Association
- The Revenue Enhancement Committee
- Many concerned residents

PLEASE JOIN US AND VOTE YES ON MEASURE K
 to make our homes and Township safer during these challenging times

THE FACTS: HOME FIRE INSURANCE RATES AND THE DROUGHT

California is now officially in a long-term drought. Currently Brooktrails has a rating of 5 out of 10 from the ISO (Insurance Service Office). 1 is the best and highest rating. We are now due to be reappraised. If Brooktrails' ISO rating goes higher than 5, then home insurers will view our Township unfavorably and your home insurance could rise significantly.

How did the Revenue Enhancement Committee decide on a \$34 annual increase?

In 2013, a Revenue Enhancement Committee of residents including those who opposed the last request for an increase in the fire tax conducted a review

of the Fire Department's current and future needs, including all of its financial information and the federal and state regulations that effect its operation.

The Revenue Enhancement Committee's recommendations

The committee unanimously agreed that the least expensive, least disruptive and most beneficial option for the community, and each resident, was to maintain the Department and raise revenue by \$34 per year. This will establish a fund to replace equipment, such as a Water Tender and EMT supplies, maintain the hazard abatement program and ensure that the department is able to work with residents to keep the community fire safe.



NOYO THEATRE Willits, CA

57 East Commercial Street - Willits 707-459-NOYO (6696)
 www.noyotheatre.com

Go online to www.NoyoTheatre.com for upcoming info movies and showtimes



Crowd Roars at Little League Opening Day

Willits Redwood Little League Opening Ceremonies on Saturday at Loffing Field draw a large crowd. And with 20 teams of Little League players, from T-Ball to Majors, that's no surprise. Little League celebrated its 75th anniversary in April. Willits Redwood Little League serves youth ages 4 to 15 from Willits and Laytonville.

Kids lined up in uniform with their team members, coaches and assistant coaches, as the ceremonies got underway. MC Jessyca Hoagland, vice-president of WRLL board of directors, called out board members for a hand of applause and handed out 2013 awards. The late Jim Hale was honored for his service, and the first "Jim Hale Memorial Award" was awarded. The Pledge of Allegiance, as well as the Little League pledges for parents and players were read.

The spotlight turned to the kids, as each team moved to 3rd base, where they were called individually by

Read the rest of Little League | Over on Page 10

Above left: Sergio Avila, 2013 Coach of the Year.
 Above right: Dennis Hoagland, 2013 Umpire of the Year.
 Below: The River Cats can't wait for the first game of the season.
 Photos by Jennifer Poole



Thursday, May 1

Willits Weekly First Anniversary

Celebration: Enjoy the first

outdoor farmers market of 2014, and come visit Willits Weekly's table to get the new paper, to say hello, and to celebrate our locally owned and independent paper's first anniversary: our first edition came out May 2, 2013. We'll have T-shirts for sale and subscription forms for mail or home delivery: Lucky new subscribers could win a T-shirt, too.

Willits Mayday Celebration: This annual celebration marks the opening of the outdoor Willits Farmers Market, as the market moves to City Park. 3 to 6 pm. "Come gather with friends to celebrate the season of blossoming and growth!" Featuring Community Maypole Dance, live music, flower garland making (bring flowers to share for making garlands), face painting and general merriment!! Free to all! Families and children especially welcome. Dress in spring colors for the occasion. To donate flowers, garland materials, contact Sheri Howe at sheri.howe@gmail.com.

"The Dining Room": A.R. Gurney's "comedy of manners" at Willits Community Theatre, 37 West Van Lane, behind Shanachie Pub. "The Dining Room" was first produced in 1982 in New York, set in a single dining room where 18 scenes from different households overlap and intertwine. The show runs through May 4, with performances on Thursdays at 7 pm for \$10, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 pm for \$15, and one last Sunday matinee, Sunday, May 4, at 2 pm for \$10. Tickets are available in person at Mazahar, 38 South Main Street; online at brownpapertickets.com/event/profile/600848; or phone the WCT office at 459-0895 for credit card orders.

"Sunseed": a documentary directed by Fredrick Amertat Cohn, that "examines the spiritual exploration amongst young people that blossomed in the United States in the early 1970s." Presented by Swami Chaitanya, American Jnani Yogi and Sri Vidya teacher, who was cameraman for the film. 7 pm. Discussion to follow. The Muse, 50 East San Francisco Avenue. \$10 donation, no one turned away. Info: 354-2475

Shanachie Pub: solo show by Chris Cichaki. 6 pm. No cover. 50 South Main Street. Info: 459-9194.

Friday, May 2

Haehl Creek Trail Work Party: first of the season's Friday morning work parties, to help clear the trail for construction. 9 to 11 am, meet at the Commonwealth Garden greenhouse/parking lot across from the new hospital construction site. Please wear gloves and work shoes/boots, and bring chain saws, asphalt rakes, shovels &/or weed whackers. Info (or to sign up to help another day): Mike Aplet, 513-3337 or mike.aplet@gmail.com.

"Art Under 20": 16th annual show of student art opens at Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street, with a reception from 4 to 7 pm. Featuring finger foods made by students and live music by the

Willits High School Jazz Band. Show runs through Sunday, May 25. Gallery hours are Thursdays and Fridays from 4 to 7 pm and Saturdays and Sundays from 12 to 3 pm. Info: Carolyn Bakewell at 459-7700, ext. 1533. See article on page 11 for details.

"A Field of Dreams": a benefit evening for the Grange Farm School, featuring Boris Garcia (a fusion of pop, bluegrass and jam: "a blend of acoustic and electric instrumentation with American roots sensibility and melody" www.borisgarcia.com); The Thugz (cosmic Americana and old time psychedelic music, from western Sonoma County: Rock, blues, country, psychedelic and world music styles." www.thethugz.net); the Real Sarahs (featuring original songs Mendocino County's Sarah "Songbird" Larkin and Sarah Ryan; organic harmonies that enchant and uplift the spirit" www.soundcloud.com/therealsarahs) and Mystic Sol. Little Lake Grange Hall, 291 School Street. Advance tickets available at JD Redhouse: \$10 adults; \$5 for ages 13 to 18; free for 12 and under. Doors open 7 pm; music at 7:30 pm. Sound by Ancestor Radio Productions. Food by Dream Capsule. Face painting by Tiffany's Fantasy Faces. Fun surprises, silent auction. A Cosmic Pickle Production.

"The Dining Room": Willits Community Theatre, see Thursday, May 1 for details.

Shanachie Pub: psychedelic rock by Redbud. 8 pm. No cover. 50 South Main Street. Info: 459-9194.

Audio Corroborree 5 Year Anniversary: doors open 9 pm at the Brooktrails Lodge, 24675 Birch Street. Bass Room: Medisin, Selector Science, Bridge Theory, Acacia Beats and Mighty Jacob. Psy Room: Irijscent, Wichdoka, Medisin, DJ Dizzy, DJ Vu vs. Druid. \$20, 21+.

Camping available. Visit www.facebook.com/AudioCorroborree.

Dance Party at John's Place: featuring DJ Mikey T, "putting down the sounds that spin you around," 10 pm to 2 am. No cover. 21+ with ID. 255 East Commercial Street. Featured bartenders: Shellie and Laurie.

Saturday, May 3

Measure K Town Hall Meeting: The Friends of the Brooktrails Firefighters, along with the Brooktrails Township, will host a Town Hall Meeting regarding the Brooktrails Fire Tax Measure K. 10 am at the Brooktrails Fire Station. This will be an opportunity to ask questions and receive information on Measure K. Info: call the Brooktrails Fire Department at 459-4441.

Cinco de Mayo Celebration: Willits Elementary Charter School presents, at the Rec Grove, from noon to 5 pm. Featuring student performances (starting at 2 pm), jump house, "Una Tienda," food, aguas frescas, and more. Free and open to the public.

16th Annual St. Anthony's Festival: a benefit wine tasting from more than 12 wineries; tasting of beer from Shanachie pub, and homemade brews. Music by DJ Mikey T. Food, silent auction, raffle prizes and door prizes. 5 to 9 pm at St. Anthony's Hall, behind the church. Tickets at the door: \$20, include a commemorative glass. Info: Peggy Ramirez at 972-2016, Jill Persico at Loose Caboose at 459-1434, or Kathy Neff at 459-9547.

WHS Father/Daughter Mother/Son Dance: the Willits High School Class of 2014 presents a Father/Daughter Mother/Son Dance, with a Candy Land theme. 7 to 9 pm at the Willits Community Center, 111 East Commercial Street. Tickets are \$30 per father/daughter or mother/son couple (in advance) and \$35 at the door. Includes: admission, two 4x6 photos on keepsake cards, plus two fancy non-alcoholic beverages. Tickets available at J.D. Redhouse, Buttercups, Tango and the WHS office.

"The Dining Room": Willits Community Theatre, see Thursday, May 1 for details.

Shanachie Pub: Cinco de Mayo Party with the Mendohoulas. 9 pm. \$10. 50 South Main Street. Info: 459-9194.

Sunday, May 4

Sunday Bingo: at the Harrah Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. Doors open at 10:30 am; Snack Bar opens at 11 am. Bingo Buy-In \$10. Info: 459-6826.

"The Dining Room": Willits Community Theatre, see Thursday, May 1 for details.

Benefit Concert: at St. Francis in the Redwoods Episcopal Church, 1 North Main Street, 4 to 6 pm. Featuring guitar, violin and harmonica player Doug Adamz, also a storyteller, and Greg "Train Singer" Schindel, and Malakai Schindel. To benefit Willits Community Services, Our Daily Bread, Willits Kids Club and Ecology Action. Visit www.dougadamz.com for more info on Adamz, who has been playing music with Greg Schindel for 40 years. Tickets are \$10 at the door; refreshments available.

Monday, May 5

Shanachie Pub: Cinco de Mayo party with gypsy flamenco guitarist Jason Wright. 6 pm. No cover. 50 South Main Street. Info: 459-9194.

Tuesday, May 6

Tightwad Tuesdays at the Noyo Theatre: All 2D movies that are in their second week are \$5 on Tuesdays at the Noyo Theatre for all ages, all showings. Check website for this week's Tightwad movies: www.noyotheatre.com. 57 East Commercial Street. 459-6660.

Sherwood Elementary School Open House: 5:30 to 6:30 pm at Sherwood School, 32600 Sherwood Road. Friends of Sherwood School hosting a Baked Potato Bar for dinner. Info: 984-6769.

Avenues to Wellness talk: "Your Immune System, The Key to Maintaining Good Health," presented by family practice physician Dr. Robert Gitlin. 5:30 to 6:30 pm at the Harrah Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Ranch. Free; donations appreciated. Refreshments. Info: 459-2777 or atwforhealth@gmail.com; visit www.avenuestowellness.org.

Master Class on Directing

On Saturday, May 10 at 10 am, professional actor, dancer and director Bill Barksdale will present a Master Class in Directing at the Willits Community Theatre playhouse, 37 West Van Lane. In Part I of the class, Barksdale will cover the nuts and bolts of organizing and leading a project, whether directing a play or conducting a business or organizing one's personal life.

On Saturday, May 17 at 10 am, Barksdale will conduct Part II of the Master Class in Directing at 10am at the WCT playhouse. In this class, Barksdale will help participants to learn strategies for aiding actors in understanding and developing their characters, and will also explore the organizational tasks necessary to launch a play in live theater.

A veteran director of numerous hit productions at WCT, Barksdale hopes that the directing sessions will inspire those who want to know more about the craft, and who will find a place to fire their own imaginations. Barksdale brings participants backstage and reveals the secrets behind successful live theater.

Both classes are \$25 adults/\$15 students; scholarships available. To register, visit www.willits theatre.org or phone 459-9035 for more info.

— Steve Hellman, for WCT

Avenues to Wellness talk 'Your Immune System'

Local family practice physician and osteopath Dr. Robert Gitlin, will present a talk on "Your Immune System ... the Key to Maintaining Good Health," Tuesday, May 6 from 5:30 to 6:30 pm at the Harrah Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road.

The presentation will address the following topics:

- How our digestion, the endocrine system, and stress relates to the immune system
- Yes, positive emotions and nutrition support our immune system

Willits Weekly | May 1, 2014

Things to do, see and enjoy in and around Willits



"Thriving After A Major Economic/Cultural Change": A Business Community Forum presented by the Willits Chamber of Commerce and the City of Willits

"to explore the opportunities available to the business community" after the Willits bypass is completed. 6:30 to 8:30 pm at Willits City Hall. Featuring a panel of former and present Cloverdale business people and community leaders, including Bob Jehn, businessman and mayor of Cloverdale at the time of the bypass; Joe Heckel, former Cloverdale city planner; Claudia Clow, owner of Pick's Drive-In; Alan Furber, Jr., owner and manager (with his brother) of their family's Furber Ranch Plaza and Rancho de Amigos subdivision; and Will Jopson, owner of Ace Hardware in Cloverdale. Info and RSVP: 459-7910 or info@willits.org.

Wednesday, May 7

North County Women in Business: Monthly networking meeting features speaker Ron Moorhead, president of the Willits Chamber of Commerce, who will speak about the Willits Police Department's Volunteers In Police Services (VIPS) Program. 8:15 to 9:30 am at Willits City Hall. \$5; free to Chamber members, first meeting always free. Refreshments. Info or to RSVP: Call 459-7910 or email ncwb2012@gmail.com.

Long Valley Garden Club Potluck and Tea Party: noon to 2 pm at 375 Harwood Road in Laytonville. Sample organic teas brought from Asia by locals Janelle and Curtis, who will speak about them. Free. Info: 984-6587.

3rd District Supervisors Candidates Forum: from 7 to 9 pm at Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. Featuring candidates Holly Madrigal, Clay Romero, Hal Wagenet and Tom Woodhouse. Bring your questions, learn the candidates' positions, and make an informed choice for the next 3rd District supervisor. Sheriff Tom Allman will moderate the forum. The candidates have agreed to remain after the forum so you can meet them and discuss issues. Sponsored by the Willits Branch of the American Association of University Women. The Willits News, Willits Economic Localization, the Willits Chamber of Commerce, the Little Lake Grange, and Willits Weekly.

Grace Christian Academy Open House: 7 pm at the church campus, 25 Hazel Street (behind Flyer's gas station). "We are now enrolling Kindergarten through sixth grade, with small class sizes and one-on-one instruction." For more info or to pick up registration forms: 459-3106.

Thursday, May 8

Shanachie Pub: Robber's Roost, 5:30 pm, and Jazz Jam, 8 pm. 50 South Main Street. Info: 459-9194.



Come Celebrate With Us!

Join Seabiscuit Heritage Foundation in commemorating Seabiscuit's Stud Barn listing in the National Historic Register, Friday, May 23 at noon. A Guided Tour, Ceremony and Reception at Historic Ridgewood Ranch, 16200 N. Highway 101. Special guests: Supervisor Dan Hamburg, Willits Mayor Holly Madrigal, Bruce Burton, Willits Rotary Club, William Nichols, author, Col. Michael Howard, USMC (Ret.), Howard family historian, Mendocino County Sheriff's Mounted Posse Color Guard and Rotary Club of Willits. Info: www.SeabiscuitHeritage.org or seabiscuit@instawave.net.

St. Anthony's 16th annual Festival Saturday, May 3

St. Anthony's Church 16th annual festival began as a wine tasting festival, but has expanded to include beer tasting as well, with a local home brewer available to talk with you about the various local brews available for tasting and the basics of brewing your own beer.

The festival is set for Saturday, May 3, from 5 to 9 pm at St. Anthony's Hall, behind the church.

Multiple varieties of wines from more than 12 different wineries will be featured, with beers provided by Shanachie Pub.

The food is always a big hit, with numerous hot and cold dishes that change throughout the evening. In addition there is a silent auction with gifts donated by Willits Furniture, Hoyman Browe Studios, Cat's Meow, Mariposa Market, Sparetime Supply and many other

Help fund new seats for the theatre!

An online campaign has been launched by the Willits Community Theatre to fund a much-needed refurbishing of its seating. Campaign manager Donna Vaiano said the crowd-funding campaign through Indiegogo allows supporters to donate funds via an internet site to help the theatre reach its goal of \$7,500 to re-cover its 67 seats. With the same seating since 1992, the worn-out upholstery is in serious need of fresh fabric, said Vaiano. The refurbishing would represent a significant step in preserving the condition of the unique venue.

"From our humble beginnings in 1977," Vaiano said, "our stage has offered classics, musicals, children's theater, improvisation, mystery, cabaret, comedy, drama, experimental and original works by local authors. We truly are a center for the performing arts and we welcome our community's help in upgrading our seating and preserving our theatre's condition."

The online funding campaign runs through the end of May. Supports may reach the donation website at: www.igg.me/at/wct-seats-for-the-soul.

— Steve Hellman, for WCT

local businesses. This year we have a special Duck Dynasty hat autographed by four of the cast members, donated by Dan Viotto who hunts with them. There are raffle tickets and door prizes too.

Music will be provided by DJ Mike Tobin, and there will be room for dancing if your toes get tapping.

Tickets are available at the door for \$20 each and include a commemorative glass and all the tastings you want.

Proceeds from the festival are used to help the parish maintain the 105-year-old church, rectory and the parish hall which houses the Willits Daily Bread free meal program, as well as helping other local groups or community members with unforeseen needs.

For info, call Peggy Ramirez at 972-2016, Jill Persico at Loose Caboose at 459-1434, or Kathy Neff at 459-9547.

— Submitted for St. Anthony's Church



Friday, May 9

Memorial Poppy Drive: American Legion Post and Auxiliary members will start their annual two-week Poppy Drive today, featuring paper poppies made by veterans. Fridays, May 9 and May 16, and Saturdays, May 10 and May 17, in front of Safeway, and in front of the Book Juggler, 182 South Main Street on other days.

2014 Indian Day: at Sherwood Valley Rancheria Casino, 100 Kawi Place, featuring fry bread tacos on sale from 12 to 4 pm. \$5 each. All proceeds go to the Tribal education program. Info: 459-7330.

Shanachie Pub: Americana music by Julian & the Upside Sound. 8 pm. 50 South Main Street. Info: 459-9194.

Saturday, May 10

REDI Open House: the Renewable Energy Development Institute would like to "tell you what REDI has been up to lately," and also "hear your thoughts about how REDI might further encourage the development of renewable energy resources for our county and our planet." 3 to 5 pm at REDI Haus, 121 West Commercial Street. Snacks and refreshments. Info: mike.aplet@gmail.com or call Mike Aplet at 459-6413.

Human-Powered Rail Machines Workshop: free workshop on human-powered rail machines, presented by Michael Hackleman. Slide show begins at 6 pm at the Willits Library; a look at rail racer vehicles at Wowser starts at 6:30. See article elsewhere on Calendar page for details.

Shanachie Pub: slamgrass by Dusty Green Bones. 8:30 pm. 50 South Main Street. Info: 459-9194.

Sunday, May 11 - Mother's Day!

Senior Center Pancake Breakfast: 8 to 11 am. Second Sundays at the Harrah Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. Pancakes, eggs (any style), bacon, sausage, or ham, orange juice, coffee. \$6 members; \$7 non-members; under 12, \$5. Info: 459-6826.

"Cannabis Renaissance" talk: featuring Samantha Miller, chief scientist and founder of Pure Analytics Laboratory. Presented by Long Valley Garden Club, 375 Harwood Road, Laytonville. 4 to 6 pm. Info: 984-6587.

Save the Date

3rd Annual Tea & Togs Fashion Show, May 17, Harrah Senior Center

Willits Frontier Days Equine Educational Clinic, May 17

Celebrate Seabiscuit's Stud Barn listing in the National Register, May 24, Ridgewood Ranch

16th Willits Walk for Health & Wellness, May 24, starts at J.D. Redhouse

Ongoing Events

Life Changes: Discussion and support group with Linda Posner, Wednesdays from 10 to 11 am. \$1. Harrah Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road.

Willits Community Drum Circle: 7 to 10 pm at the Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street. Every 2nd and 4th Fridays. Free. Everyone is welcome. Info: 459-4932

Smoking Cessation Program: Free "Freedom from Smoking" class sponsored by the Frank R. Howard Memorial Hospital. Every Wednesday at the HMH Conference Room, 1 Madrone Street, 6 to 7 pm. RSVP to Jennifer Barrett at 707-540-4208. Walk-ins are always welcome.

Willits Frontier Twirlers: Beginner's classes in basic and mainstream square dance, Monday nights at the Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street, from 6:45 to 8 pm, then dancing until 9 pm, with professional caller Lawrence Johnstone, who will teach and call. Info: 459-9526.

Free Sheriff's Activity League programs: at Body Works Gym, 1511 South Main Street. Teen gym: Monday to Friday from 2:30 to 5:30 pm; Boxing: Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 7 pm; Karate: Kids aged 5 to 11 from 6 to 7 pm, Teens, Teens and Adults at 7 pm. All SAL programs free to the public. Info: www.facebook.com/ MendocinoCountySheriffsYouthActivitiesLeague or Mike Tobin: 354-0565.

Shanachie Pub: Open Mic every Wednesday at 8:40 pm. Sign-ups start at 3 pm. 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Info: 459-9194.

Just For Fun Choir: directed and accompanied by Nancy New. Meets Mondays at the Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road, from 1 to 2:30 pm. Accepting new members of all ages and abilities. Info: call Nancy New at 459-1276.

Laytonville Farmers Market: Mondays from 2:30 to 4:30 pm in downtown Laytonville. Buy local: vegetables, apples, juice, bakery, beef, lamb, pork, jewelry, aprons, children's clothing, knife sharpening and more.

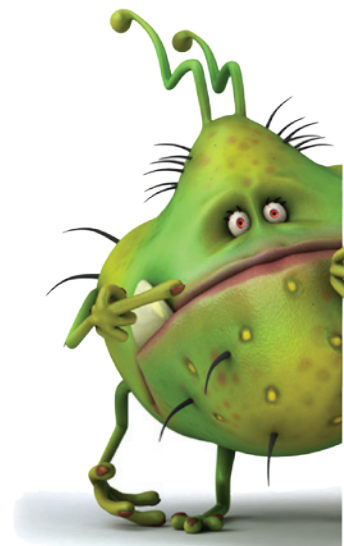


The "Dragon" pedal-powered rail vehicle, built by Richard Jergenson, Phil Jergenson and Michael Hackleman – and "enchanted" by Rosamond Crowder – for the Kinetic Carnivale Handcar Races.

Human- Powered Rail Machines Workshop

Saturday, May 10

Have you fantasized about building a rail racer? Check out this free workshop on human-powered rail machines, on Saturday, May 10, presented by Michael Hackleman. Slide show begins at 6 pm at the Willits Library, with a wide variety of homemade rail machines, including photos from Kinetic Carnivale handcar races in 2012 and 2013. Following discussion, around 6:30 pm, the group will head down the street to the Wowser facility at 330 East Commercial Street. Several rail racers will be on hand for closer inspection and Q&A with their owner/builders. Wowser is offering a special membership rate for folks who wish to fabricate rail vehicles at their facility. They have a big bonepile of parts and all the tools needed to do the job.



Congrats Column



Happy Anniversary!
Tom and Shirley Schott celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary on April 28. They were married here in Willits on their property on String Creek Road in 1979. They have had wonderful years together and wish for many more.

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Sallie Palmer
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www.wellmanneredmutts.com

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Join Us for Dessert with a Doc
As a gastroenterologist Dr. Hermens specializes in caring for and treating digestive disorders and diseases, and enjoys seeing patients throughout the vast spectrum of care. He has a passion for improving his patients' quality of life. Here's what you will learn at this FREE event:

- Who Gets GERD?
- Can GERD Lead to Other Problems?
- How is GERD Diagnosed?
- Lifestyle Changes that Reduce GERD
- Medicines for GERD
- Surgery for GERD

Learn how you can take better care of yourself and
Live Younger Longer.

YOU CAN ALSO WATCH THE EVENT LIVE AT UVMC.ORG/LIVE.

BGMS Enchilada Sale
Baechtel Grove Middle School eighth-graders sold more than 100 double enchilada dinners last Friday, to benefit their end-of-the-year field trip. Students (and adult helpers) were stationed at a table outside Willits City Hall, as patrons drove through the lot to pick up their dinners. Among those helping were Austin, sitting at left, and Mitchell, sitting at right. Standing, from left to right: Bailey, Steven, Zack, Morgan and Stephanie.

– Jennifer Poole



Above from left: Lions Club member Glen Helton, Soroptimist International Willits' Loraine Patton, Willits Rotary's Jerry Turner and Denise Rose, Lions Club member Verd VanBazooyen, Little Lake Fire Department's John Thomen and Kevin Reedy, Willits Frontier Days President Marcy Barry, and Willits Frontier Days' Lee Persico.

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Roads - Water, Soil & Rock Delivery

Willits Frontier Days Gives back \$2,500
Willits Frontier Days tries to gives back funds to the Willits community to help support programs and groups in need. This year, \$2,500 was the amount divvied up, with the thoughtful assistance of members of the Little Lake Fire Department, Soroptimist International of Willits, the Willits Lions Club and the Willits Rotary Club and FD.

The Willits High School baseball team received funds for new batting cage netting; a donation was made to the fire department's Smoke Detector Program; and monies were given to help work on the Willits W up on Red Hill.

Additional funds went to support the TRAIL program at Ridgewood Ranch; to Aurelie Clivaz who works with youth and teens; and to Willits Daily Bread, to help feed the hungry in our community.

Puzzle Page & More Activities & fun for kids of all ages
PET WORD SEARCH
Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally & diagonally throughout the puzzle.

AQUARIUM	DOG	GUINEA PIG	PETS
BEDDING	FENCE	HAMSTER	RESPONSIBILITY
BIRD	FERRET	IMMUNIZATIONS	SEED
BOWLS	FILTER	INSURANCE	STORE
CAGE	FISH	KIBBLE	TAIL
CAT	FOOD	LEASH	TANK
COLLAR	FURRY	LICENSE	TOYS
COMPANION	GRAVEL	LITTER	VETERINARIAN
CRATE	GROOMING	PERCH	WATER

Puzzle ANSWERS ON PAGE 10
Sudoku
Level: Intermediate

	4			6	9	5	
	1			5			
8				7			1
							5
9			1	4	3	2	
2				9			
1		9					
					6		
5		8			4		2

COLUMN | Intuitive Patterns
The rest of M3A | From Page 3

May 2014
There are moments when you feel as if you are in a barren desolate wasteland in search of water and safety. You want to collapse and stop, but you know that to do that would be a terrible idea. The month of May will feel like this.

You are shifting, and everything is in disarray from the wild ride of the end of April and the Grand Cardinal Cross with the eclipses. You want to find what is home and safely to you, but it feels far away. April put you through a type of metaphorical death. To keep going when you want to stop seems pointless, but you are not dead yet and some part of you keeps saying, "Keep going!" So that is what you are going to do. All you can seem to manage is to navigate this moment; then the next and then the next. There is a deep desire to try to make sense out of the changes, the incompleteness in your life, and the deep feelings that are surfacing. You feel as if there is a wolf at the door and if you make one wrong move ... your journey will prove pointless.

I wish that we could transform without being challenged. I wish life would stay nice and consistent. And yet we know that life does not work that way. May is a month of constant adjustments and continued blockages. There is nothing to do but deal with what is right in front of you.

Projections from others abound, because you are not the only one feeling the pinch. Each of us will feel as if we are facing an insurmountable challenge and upon reflection we may just think that we have "missed the boat."

Do not worry. Sometimes we make choices, and the outcome is not what we intended. In life the only game is to take risks and change. Sometimes those changes were to get you out of restrictive circumstances. The universe will offer a temptation to get you to move, but often in the end you do not get the "goodie" that you thought you were going for.

Remember the song, "Me and Bobbie McGee," by Janis Joplin. In it was the refrain, "Freedom's just another word for nothin' left to lose." In May we want freedom. We want to find a place of balance where we can just be ourself. But family, work, children, drama, upsets, world issues, global crises, money, etc. just keep getting in the way.

You might feel right now like you want to say, "To heck with it all." But you know that does not work either. If you did, in the end you would resent yourself and that would be worse. In this moment you have to look at the wounding that is coming up from your life. It is time to stop chasing some utopian feeling and stand your ground, take responsibility, deal with the situation, and learn some new ways to cope emotionally.

I know this is easier said than done, but you can feel how this "thing" is bugging you. Turn around, face the fear, find another answer, grow up and discover something about yourself. There is no reason to not try. It feels strained enough right now. A new option might be very refreshing. After all, you have nothing left to lose after the intensity of the last two weeks of April.

Suzanne Wagner is a professional psychic who teaches the intuitive arts throughout the United States. She is the author of "Integral Tard" and "Integral Numerology," which can be found on Amazon.com. She also gives a once-a-month Psychic Fair at Mazahar in Willits; the May 8 date is booked up, but you can get on the waiting list in advance at the store, 38 South Main Street. More info: visit www.suzwagner.com or call her at 707-354-1019.

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Crossword Puzzle
CLUES ACROSS
1. Alter
7. Defects
13. Language of Andorra
14. One who scrapes
16. Not off
17. People indigenous to Europe
19. Of I
20. Hmong
22. Brew
23. Sandwich shops
25. Shade trees
26. Scope or extent
28. Self-immolation by fire
29. U of Al. fraternity 3-9-1856
30. Automatic data processing
31. Veterans battleground
33. " Squad"
34. Frog genus
36. Pillage
38. Elsewhere defense
40. Graphic symbols
41. An opaque spot on the cornea
43. Capital of Yemen
44. Doctors' group
45. Electronic countermeasures
47. Make lace

CLUES DOWN
1. Folder paper
2. Mormon state
3. Folded, filled tortillas
4. Expression of sorrow
5. Follows sigma
6. Settle in tents
7. Milk paint
8. A batter's run
9. Little Vienna on the Mures
10. Stems
11. Country singer Lang
12. Half tone interval

48. Chit
51. Singer Horne
53. Silent agreement
55. Short-billed rail
56. Drinking container
58. Matchstick game
59. Indian dresses
60. Trumpeter Hirt
61. The View's first segment
64. Atomic #34
65. Plural of 41 across
67. Roof supports
69. Tears apart
70. Goat-like deities

13. Arrives
15. Occupies
18. Vestment
21. Relating to US artifacts
24. One who covers with laminate
26. Dental organization
27. Pitch
30. Like a feeble old woman
32. Murdered in his bathtub
35. Dhab, Arabian capital
37. Play on words
38. Alloy of mercury
39. Mushroom gill
42. Perform
43. College entrance exam
46. Praying insects
47. Entices
49. Ascends
50. Sculpture stands
52. God of Assyria
54. Data executive
55. Impudent
57. Not shared
59. Rabbit tail
62. Small amount
63. Irish revolutionary org.
66. Ben-Hur actor's initials
68. Older citizen (abbr.)

of the self-defense techniques she'd learned. She showed a wrist release that worked by stepping in powerfully and using her elbow as a "weapon," instead of pulling away in fear.

But self-defense, for women or men, isn't "just a set of techniques, but a state of mind," the studio's flyer states, beginning "with the belief that you are worth defending."

The women's class is a great opportunity, Casey said, for female high school graduates planning to go off to college in the fall, maybe to a bigger city. "We will teach you to become empowered so that you can and will be able to defend yourself against assault."

Casey has also been teaching wrestling to students at the Willits Charter School. Wrestling is a good way for the

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kids to blow off steam, he says, and martial and grappling arts in general give young people a way to release their energy that might otherwise lead to trouble.

Kids classes at the dojo will teach the basics of Brazilian jiu jitsu, wrestling and self-defense, incorporating games to help make class a fun experience.

The classes are very affordable, Demarie says.

The walls at the studio, at 30A East San Francisco Avenue, are dark red with the black centurion head logo painted on the walls, and flags of different nations hung on the one light green wall. Wrestling mats cover the floor, and banana bags, for kickboxing, stand in the corners. Each class begins with stretching and warm-ups, like other physical fitness classes.

Casey hopes to find other teachers to share the studio with, like a yoga or tai chi instructor, and plans to offer cross fit training in the future, too.

To keep up with class offerings at M3A, check out their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/MendoMixedMartialArts. Info: M3Awillits@gmail.com or call 707-371-6206.

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Dog Training Classes
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Puppy class, Level 1, and drop-in class for previous students. *Space is limited. Must pre-register by May 10.* Info: www.wellmanneredmutts.com or contact Sallie Palmer, Certified Dog Trainer at wellmanneredmutts@gmail.com / 463-DOGS.

For Mother's Day
Why not include a FREE photo of you and your mother in our May 8 edition of Willits Weekly? Email your photo to willitsweekly@gmail.com and be sure to include a caption! We need them by Monday, May 5!

For Rent
2 bedroom, 1.5 bath condo/townhouse. In country setting. Washer/dryer hook-up. Garbage paid. \$725/month. Call Armo: 459-9601.

Garage Sale
Pearl Street Block Garage Sale. Saturday, May 3, 8:30 am to 2:30 pm.

Help Wanted
Willits Weekly is looking for a freelance photographer/reporter to do occasional local community feature assignments. Experience a plus, but not necessary. Potential for more work, as Willits Weekly continues to grow. Call 459-2633 for more information.

HOME DELIVERY!
Willits Weekly is now offering Home Delivery! If you live in Willits, Brooktrails or Little Lake Valley, you're inside our home delivery area. Home delivery subscriptions are \$30/six months and \$50/year. (Mail subscriptions sent by first-class mail are still \$40/six months and \$75/year.) Your Willits Weekly will be delivered (in a plastic bag) to your home or driveway in the wee hours of Friday morning. To place an order, or for more information, call 459-2633.

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The rest of Willits Weekly | From Page 1

scenes, reading front page stories and giving advice based on his years of industry experience.

We are working on adding new freelance feature writers, too, who will help us cover the many stories, photo ops, and events happening in Willits. With all the goings-on in town – and with help from WW’s wonderful local advertisers – we have often been able to increase the paper’s standard 12-page editions to 14 and, sometimes, even 16 pages, happily creating some really big and extra-impressive issues.

Willits Weekly continues to add monthly columnists who showcase special interests, from dog training to horse health issues to crafting to book reviews to relationships and more. We love including the puzzle page with the crossword, Sudoku and word searches, and we hope the combination of fun and information makes Willits Weekly a paper that folks of all ages can enjoy.

We continue to look at fun and exciting advertising options for the community, with our great color, clean registration and affordable pricing for print ads. We love calling for submissions from the community for our photo collages like those we do for Father’s Day, Back to School,

Halloween and – coming up – Mother’s Day. We also love offering the free “Congratulations” column to celebrate individual achievements, anniversaries and more.

Willits Weekly is proudly partnering with local organizations to help distribute helpful resources like the Soroptimist International Willits Community Telephone Directory and, this summer, the Willits Frontier Days annual program for the July 4 festivities.

We also want to express our thanks to everybody else who’s contributed to the paper, past and present, with photos, stories, editorial submissions, letters, donations, ideas, help with distribution and news tips: We couldn’t have done it without you!

In the future, WW looks forward to receiving continued input from the community and to keep moving forward and improving the paper. We hope to soon have additional newspaper distribution boxes around town and Brooktrails, and are now offering home delivery, as well as in-the-mail delivery, in six-month and one-year subscription options.

We are excited to move into our second year with this positive and supportive foundation to help propel us forward for many years to come.

Fun Facts and FAQ

Some helpful info about Willits Weekly!

Boxes are located at: Old Mission Pizza, Brewed Awakening, Ace Copy and Shipping, Country Skillet, Willits Post Office, J.D. Redhouse, Ardella’s Diner, and Scoops.

T-shirts are: \$20 each, M-XXL. (Show your Willits Weekly pride!)

Mail subscriptions are: \$40/6 months, \$75/1 year.

Home delivery subscriptions are: \$30/6 months, \$50/1 year.

Willits Weekly is located at: Home! The paper doesn’t actually have an office. We all work at home, but can be found at the Farmers Market every Thursday from 3 to 6 pm at the City Park (May-October, starting May 1) and 3 to 5:30 pm at the Little Lake Grange (November-April).

The paper is printed: in a small town near Eureka called Samoa. There is a company there called Western Web who has a state-of-the-art independent press. We print at 300 dpi (magazine quality!), and in CMYK mode.

“How can you give the paper away for free?” Subscriptions, advertisers and donations make it possible to distribute Willits Weekly for free. Advertisers are WW’s biggest source of revenue, but there is always a hefty printer bill to pay, so donations and subscriptions are always appreciated.

“When will you guys start charging?” Logistically, it’s just not very easy to do that: Willits Weekly would rather not stick merchants with the burden of keeping

track of 50 cents here and there, and newspaper boxes with coin mechanisms are expensive to buy and require maintenance. With free circulation, Willits Weekly gets into the hands of more people and that’s what matters most!

“Are you affiliated with any other newspaper or venture?” No. Jennifer Poole and Maureen Moore are the co-founders of Willits Weekly, an independent, locally owned newspaper not affiliated with any other newspaper, business or corporation, past or present.

“Where can I find back issues?” In print, from Jennifer or Maureen; digitally, each entire issue is posted in .pdf format, ads and all, at www.willitsweekly.com.

“Where can I find subscription forms?” Subscription forms are available at our table at the Farmers Market, printed regularly in the newspaper, or online at www.willitsweekly.com.

“Where can I find ad rates?” Ad rates are available on our website or by contacting Julia Gromek, 489-3449, or advertising@willitsweekly.com.

“Where can I find photos from the newspaper?” Many photos from Willits Weekly are available at our online gallery: <http://photographress.zenfolio.com/willitsweekly/>

“What can we do to help Willits Weekly succeed?” KEEP READING! Tell your friends, tell your kids. Buy a T-shirt or subscription, go in and tell advertisers that you saw their ad in the paper. Give your copy to a friend to read. Send good juju into the air. We appreciate it all!

The rest of Little League | From Page 5

name to run to home plate, to the cheers and applause of the crowd, and given a pin. 2014 Little League teams include Blue Rocks, Hot Rods, Grasshoppers, Volcanoes, Raptors, Bees, River Cats, River Bandits, Sea Dogs, River Dogs, Yankees, Orioles, Indians, A’s, Pirates, Phillies, Jr. Division Giants, Majors Giants, Jr. Division Braves, and Majors Braves.

“We are so thankful to the community for the generous

support of our sponsors,” Hoagland told Willits Weekly. “We are so lucky: That’s what allows us to provide this league to the kids; without our sponsors, we couldn’t do it.”

The league urgently needs volunteer umpires and Snack Shack concession volunteers. “Please, if you have even a little bit of time to give, we will be grateful!” the league states on its “Willits Redwood Little League” Facebook page.

“Come to the Snack Shack at Lofing Field, Monday through Thursday, 5:30 pm or on Saturdays, and let us know that you are ready to donate your time and make the whole baseball experience better for the players in our community!” Info: Clint Jewell, WRLL president, at 354-1533 or Jessyca Hoagland, WRLL vice president, at 480-4776.

– Jennifer Poole

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‘Art Under 20’ opens Friday at WCA

Many Willits residents may not be aware of the warm, focused havens of creativity that are the art studios of our local high schools. The new art exhibit at the Willits Center for the Arts, “Art Under 20,” which opens this Friday, is a chance to see the work that comes from these students.

When I visited the art room at Willits High School, I was struck by the combination of activity and focus. A large file cabinet for art and materials had just been delivered, and two boys were expertly fabricating a lid for it in the woodshop, while other students worked on art in various states of completion.

Each day, class is a mixture of independent work time, formal learning and social collaboration. The feeling in the room is reflective of the experience these students are offered: relaxed and respectful. Michaela Terrell says: “I love coming to ceramics class and working with clay. It’s a nice way to relax.” This can be rare, and therefore precious, in the day of a high school student.

The artists I spoke with all mentioned that art class (Visual Art I) was a fun part of their day. It provides an opportunity to work on projects of personal interest, such as Aiko Tso’s oil pastel rendering of a photo of herself with her siblings that she plans to present to her mother for her upcoming birthday.

Many students, like Karina Silverstein, have waited for years to take an art class. Now that she is here, she is able to experiment with using various media to express her ideas. Another student, Tomas Hardman, is able to find voice for ideas that are new even to him. He says: “Art is a window into my imagination. My creativity flows like a river through the pencil onto the paper or through my fingers onto the clay.”

Students from Carolyn Bakewell’s classes at Willits High School are joined by their peers from the Willits Charter School where Gwyn Ware leads the visual art instruction. Teens from both schools have worked diligently to prepare powerful works for the 16th annual “Art Under 20”

show. This show has been curated by Bakewell, and students are helping with every aspect of the show, including publicity, label-making, hanging the art, and hosting at the gallery. This gives the artists valuable experience in the process and work involved in presenting their art to an audience. And it gives our community an opportunity to appreciate the unique expressions of talent by our youth.

Anyone who has attended these shows in the past has likely been impressed and inspired by the skill, creativity and passion of our local young artists. This year is no exception.

A particularly lively time to visit the show is during the opening, this Friday, May 2 from 4 to 7 pm. Student artists will be on hand at the reception, along with finger foods they will prepare for the event. The Willits High School Jazz Band will be performing for attendees.

If you cannot make it to the opening, “Art Under 20” runs through Sunday, May 25 at the Willits Center for the Arts. Gallery hours are Thursdays and Fridays from 4 to 7 pm and Saturdays and Sundays from 12 to 3 pm.

For more information, call Carolyn Bakewell at 459-7700, ext. 1533.



At top: from left to right, WHS students Karina Silverstein, Aiko Tso and Melissa Aceves show off their art.

Photo by Spring Senerchia

Above: Michaela Terrell with her ceramic pitcher.

Below: Marcos Diaz works on his sculpture of David.

Photos by Carolyn Bakewell

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Fund“RAIN”sing

for Sober Grad's annual party

Friday's Drive-Through Tri-Tip Dinner was another successful event for Sober Grad, held as always at the Willits Frontier Days rodeo grounds.

The dinners for four were prepped at the Willits Charter School's kitchen and included beef, salad, rolls, cookies and flowers. Dinners were sold for \$50 for dinner for four.

The group was proud to say they sold out of the 200 tickets

available, but they still had tickets left at the beginning of the week. But ever-helpful community members stopped by and called in, offering to purchase tickets if needed and, Impressively, by the time the group was done distributing, all the dinners had been sold.

This year, Schat's Bakery made the rolls and cookies which upped the expenses some for this year's event. Even with the \$7,000 to \$8,000 in profits raised from the



Photos by Maureen Moore

dinner, Sober Grad is still short of their \$25,000 goal, which pays for the annual alcohol-free graduation night party.

The last Sober Grad fundraiser, the Ducky Derby, is scheduled for next Saturday, May 10 at 1 pm at the Brooktrails Golf Course. For more info or to become a Ducky Derby sponsor, contact Sober Grad at: willitssobergrad@gmail.com.



Cupcake Wars

Cooking Club and Booster Club raise over \$1,000

It was cupcake crazy at the Willits Community Center last Saturday, when folks gathered to bake and taste cupcakes for the benefit of the Willits High School Cooking Club and the Willits High School Boosters Club.

Ten teams came to offer their cupcakes up for titles like "Best Tasting" and "Best Decorated Table," and a

few teams won bragging rights sure to be used until next year's event.

The WHS Cooking Club won two awards: "Best Decorated Cupcake," for their rainbow gradient-frosted number, and also the sheisty "People's Choice" vote, where bribing, begging and other

Read the rest of **Cupcakes** | Over on Page 13

Above left: Daisy Barrett presents an award to the WHS Cooking Club.

Above center: Judges Chad Gillis, Morgan Riley, Holly Madrigal and James Wells pose with ladies in teal Kristy Wisdom and Jennifer Barrett of WHS, who co-advise the Cooking Club.

Above right: Daisy Barrett presents an award to the Riley and Willcutt team.

Below left: Recipients of the "Best Tasting Cupcake" award Lisa and Kylie Reed. Below right: One of the hamburger cupcakes made by the Riley and Willcutt team.



Please Join Us in Welcoming Suki Spillner to the Redwood Medical Clinic

Suki, a board-certified family nurse practitioner joins John Glycer, MD, family practitioner, and Bruce Andich, MD, internal medicine, at the Redwood Medical Clinic.

Ms. Spillner is excited to serve the community of Willits and is accepting both adult and pediatric patients. She enjoys managing complex chronic illnesses, with an emphasis on health education and helping her patients achieve their goals. Ms. Spillner is seeing previous and new patients.

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Our employees will be making and selling fry bread tacos for \$5.00 each.
All proceeds go to the Tribal education program.

Hot Seat Drawings!
Every Half Hour from 1 to 10 p.m.
•\$250 cash will be given away every hour, on the hour beginning at 1 p.m.
•Additional drawings for gifts will begin at 1:30 p.m. and continue every 2 hours until 7:30 p.m.

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The rest of **Q&A** | From Page 1

and quality of life. I am the voice for rural issues, farm and forest, and have the track record. The others are city-centric and show little leadership in solving the Brooktrails-Willits lawsuit or taking consistent public stands on the bypass or Harris Quarry. I speak for business, budget solvency, and proper compensation for employees.

TOM WOODHOUSE

It is time to give back to the community. My wife, Carolyn, and I raised a family, built our home and operated a business for 40 years. Our work was rewarded, and I am in a position to contribute time, energy and experience. My business experiences have taught me the art of making a deal in order to accomplish something, when the alternative is to accomplish nothing. Government is lacking in compromise, government has become rigid, too ideological and too remote from those it serves. I believe I can bring a fresh and thoughtful presence to the board of supervisors.

2. Do you support the general direction that county government has taken in the last four years? Why or why not?

CLAY ROMERO

Yes and no. I like how the county has been careful in spending money, but I believe improvements can be made in other areas. Promoting manufacturing business while rejecting the marijuana culture will save money spent on Social Services, law enforcement, and legal expenses concerning federal law. Manufacturing businesses will not come to this county as long as they believe that people in their employ need to be drug-tested for safety concerns. Increased employment, prosperity and real wealth can be ours. I believe the county now has the will to do it.

HAL WAGENET

The board has had to make tough decisions on staff levels and compensation. The necessary adjustments brought solvency, but at a price. Service levels have been reduced too far in some areas, morale is low, and debt reduction strategies need improvement. For that to happen, the county must be on sound fiscal ground. On the bright side, an improved credit rating, and positive reserves will support positive wage and benefit restoration. Continued implementation of the transition to the CEO governance model shows many improvements. My input as a supervisor will greatly assist this process.

TOM WOODHOUSE

Yes. The board of supervisors has dealt with challenging financial issues during the last four years, and time will tell how successful they have been. More importantly, the county faces huge issues regarding water, fire protection, labor agreements and marijuana, to name a few. I disagree with government outsourcing or exporting jobs from our county; the county needs to retain the local labor resources it has. Most agree we need to encourage more employment to provide for the needs of the population. The supervisors cannot succeed without improved communication with employees, the public, and each other.

HOLLY MADRIGAL

I am running for supervisor to guide the county into a direction that's more sustainable. Cutting costs and building a reserve is only the beginning. Now we need to: 1. Address the terrible morale of our employees. 2. Increase revenue by supporting our local businesses. Our planning department can become problem solvers. 3. Take a more active role in water resource planning. Let's restore the water agency and advocate for Mendocino County's water rights. Our neighbors to the south have taken advantage of us for too long.

3. If you are elected supervisor, what would you do to help the greater Willits area, including Brooktrails and the Little Lake Valley?

HAL WAGENET

As multi-year chair of the award-winning Visit Mendocino County, tourism is an important factor. More of the 5,000 jobs countywide can be ours, given local opportunities. The latest factor in defining Willits as a "Western Town" is naming the Seabiscuit Stud Barn to the National Register of Historic places. Along with the Skunk Train, Roots, Frontier Days and county Museum, this is a positive direction. I support the Brooktrails Second Access road, and cooperative agreements for water, sewer and transportation issues between Willits and Brooktrails. As the timber industry recovers, restoring lost infrastructure will be a top priority for the 3rd District.

TOM WOODHOUSE

Willits must prepare for life after the bypass; business will change. The city has not prepared for acquiring the portion of 101 Caltrans will be relinquishing. Brooktrails is not prepared for a wildfire. Residents need information on preparedness and evacuation alternatives. The reality is Brooktrails needs a second egress; unfortunately there is no funding currently in place. There are unpaved roads that could be used in an emergency; those areas should be mapped, marked and available to everyone. All residents of the area want a voice in the district and someone to listen when they have a concern or issue.

HOLLY MADRIGAL

Important projects like the Brooktrails 2nd Access road and development of Scout Lake as a water source have been neglected by our supervisors. Let's get these things done.

I will make sure zoning at the bypass exits remain ag land, so we don't get gas stations that will hurt the Willits downtown. I am developing good signage that will draw people off the freeway, so that they will support our stores and restaurants. We need to maintain our roads in Brooktrails and our outlying areas, and I support smart, economical paving projects that allow our transportation dollars to go further.

CLAY ROMERO

I'll work to develop more water supplies. Whether it be tanks, ponds, lakes or wells, the people can count on me to smooth out government snags with as much authority as the board of supervisors possesses. I wish to promote farming with a favorable zoning and tax structure to make Mendocino County food self-sufficient. This is a good insurance in an ever-changing world. I am mindful of those that cater to the tourist trade. I will work with business

owners to make Willits a fun and satisfying place for the tourist to visit.

4. Is experience in government important to being a good county supervisor? Why or why not?

TOM WOODHOUSE

Obviously not; several supervisors in recent memory had little or no governmental experience. In my case I have 40 years of business experience, rather than years of governmental experience in accepting inaction as an acceptable result. We cannot afford to lose the next four years with the wrong choice. We need leadership, practical common sense, and the courage to include the public in the governing process. The county needs cooperation and communication that supports and encourages new and existing businesses. Growth to me includes regaining what we have lost, not changing into something we do not want.

HOLLY MADRIGAL

Of course! Would you vote for a judge or county sheriff with no experience? If you found yourself \$200 million in debt, would you hire a volunteer to pull you free? I'll hit the ground running. I will have no learning curve! My skill in crafting budgets will be handy, and I know how to negotiate a labor contract. I work well with the current board of supervisors. Carre Brown and I are crafting drought solutions. John McCowen and I are finding ways to boost local construction of solar and water-efficiency projects.

CLAY ROMERO

Experience in government can be helpful, but it is not as crucial as having a solid foundation of life's core values on which to make decisions. Without having standards, a candidate can hardly become an effective leader and will blow in the wind of public pressures. The elected candidate must be the best and the brightest, and embody all of the virtues of Mendocino County without exhibiting any of its shortcomings. The ideal candidate must set aside political power and do what is right in serving the people.

HAL WAGENET

Experience in government alone is insufficient. A supervisor must be well-connected to the voters, business interests, and the vital non-profit organizations. City government, as a stepping stone, only provides experience in managing a collection of special districts: water, police, streets, etc. County government has much broader scope, dealing with land use, environmental compliance, public safety and regional issues. Additionally, the county acts as a pass-through agency for state and federal programs, such as Air Quality and Social Services. These often come with strings attached and hidden costs that require a real business background. I bring that to the table.

5. Do you support the Willits bypass?

HOLLY MADRIGAL

Willits needs a heart transplant, not a bypass. This project has caused us to not listen to each other. I voted against the current project in a 3-2 city council vote, but construction has begun. I am the candidate concerned about saving our businesses, avoiding flooding in the valley, and preserving ag land. Willits needs to move forward. I partnered with Brooktrails board's Tim Ramming to meet leaders in Cloverdale, Healdsburg and Lincoln, to learn how they kept their towns vital after their bypass. I am committed to work with the Laytonville Municipal Advisory Council to help locals prepare for increased traffic.

CLAY ROMERO

Yes. I know the bypass will be critical for easing traffic congestion during the tourist season, yet still accommodate the tourists as they head out to the Mendocino coast. An extra benefit for Willits will be cleaner air in town, because vehicles will no longer have to wait as much in heavy traffic conditions. I'm thankful that the state of California has finally elected to complete this long-overdue project and am grateful for the sacrifices of the landowners involved.

HAL WAGENET

Successfully analyzing this complex, 60-year-old regional project and presenting a functional compromise got me into politics in 1999. Working within Caltrans' public input process, I proposed the ELSIE hybrid route, which was supported unanimously by the Willits city council, BOS, fire departments, police and sheriff departments, etc. Caltrans improved the environmental features, and the project is now underway. I saw it then, and still do, as inevitable. The best we could do was shape it for local benefit. Accommodating local traffic was key. The design does that, but it is up to us to take advantage. I support the bypass.

TOM WOODHOUSE

The bypass is a fact; supporting or not supporting is moot. The Willits City Council has failed in its responsibility to work with the public to prepare a Downtown Specific Plan. Citizens need to get involved in order to have a Downtown Specific Plan in place and be ready when Caltrans relinquishes Main Street. There is currently little to no money in place to maintain Main Street once the city receives it. Downtown is going to change, and Willits must have a Specific Plan in place before the bypass is completed.

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The rest of **Bond** | From Page 1

trouble, and certainly we wound up there.

"The problem is, this bond issue, and the results of it, have really caused a lot of ill will towards our school district. There are a lot of people in this community who no longer think our school district is doing right or doing good, who don't want to support it anymore, primarily because of this bond issue and how it's backfired on all of us. This has also reverberated into other areas of the community, such as the fire department, who believes strongly they weren't able to get their funding for their firehouse because they heard over and over and over: "Man, we don't want to do another school district."

"There needs to be – at least, it has to look like – a gesture of trying to do the best we can to get out of this situation," Kamoroff said. "And certainly, the way to do that is not to take on more bonds, not to take on any more debt than whatever we need to keep from going into bankruptcy, and to do our very best to get out of this however we can, and not extend it even one dollar. The school district – now that everybody's heard about the accreditation problems at the high school – needs a little bit of good publicity, and adding to the bonds is going to backfire publicly.

"More important than anything," he said, "we need to get the community's support back for your school district, and I think adding more money for more bond work is not the way to do it right now."

Bill Shaffer, an area resident for 45 years, summed up his advice in a concise epigram: "You don't go buy a Cadillac when you work at McDonald's."

The board heard the public's comments and thanked it when everyone had spoken. Board Chairwoman Saprina Rodriguez said trustees would come to a decision on the matter at the board's May 7 meeting.

The rest of **Lawsuit** | From Page 1

soil may have on salmon and steelhead populations in nearby streams. "No studies have been undertaken on [the contaminants' effect] on aquatic life," she said. "Even small amounts of mercury could pose a risk to the salmon and steelhead population."

Dublin-based DeSilva Gates Construction, which specializes in highway and civil engineering construction services, is the major contractor for the bypass project. The contractor is required to supply the fill for the northern interchange, but the contract does not say where the fill must be found.

Without access to fill from the Apache Mill site, fill could be excavated from Caltrans-owned lands on Oil Well Hill, about one-quarter-mile north of the mill site. That excavation would require logging the steep, forested slopes first.

Moving any fill onto the northern interchange is contingent on Caltrans reaching agreement with the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board over issues with the project's Mitigation and Monitoring Plan.

The rest of **Cupcakes** | From Page 12

shenanigans were encouraged.

"Best Decorated Table" went to the Rileys and the Willcuts, who themed their booth with a camping motif, including camp stove and cupcakes decorated with corn-on-the-cob and hamburgers.

The Scoops booth, which featured a giant cupcake facade, came in a close second for "Best Decorated," and ER Energy's display of cooking goods also caught the judges' eyes.

"Best Tasting Cupcake" went to Lisa and Kylie Reed, who made a blackberry cupcake that the judges noted was "so fresh tasting!" they couldn't stop eating it.

The success of the event has encouraged the clubs to make it an annual event. Next year, they hope for even more baking participants, and tasters, too. Many contestants ran out of cupcakes half-way through the event and were clearing tables by 4 pm.

Funds raised were shared between the two clubs. The Boosters portion will help support the sports programs at WHS. The Cooking Club will be able to buy more food to help continue their cooking education, so they can supply food for other school fundraisers.

The long-term goal is to partner with the local school farms, so Cooking Club members can help prep produce and make recipes with local ingredients to serve at the school cafeterias.

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Willits Weekly is proud to showcase some of Willits High School's Amazing Athletes.

Athletes are nominated by their coaches and with the help of coach and project facilitator, Dave Smith.

Willits Weekly highlights two athletes each week, to share their achievements with the community.

Willits Weekly's Athletes of the Week



Swimming | Isabel Hageman, 16, Junior

Breakfast of Champions: Coffee and waffles with boysenberry and raspberry syrup

Isabel swims the 50 freestyle and 100 back. Her best times are 29.80 in the 50 free and 1.19.18 in the 100 back. She is closing in on a qualifying time of 28.00 in the 50 free.

Photos by Maureen Moore



Track | Robert Swoboda, 15, Freshman

Breakfast of Champions: Toast with light butter, or a large meal the night before

Robert ran varsity for the first time last week in Fort Bragg and picked up two third places in the 1600 and 800 meter. His time of 5:05 in the 1600 was just 10 seconds off the freshman school record.



Off and Running!

Sweetheart contest officially starts May 1

Those who have been anxiously waiting to purchase their tickets from their favorite Willits Frontier Days Sweetheart contestant will get the green light on May 1, when the ticket selling begins.

The girls will meet Thursday evening with Loraine Patton of Soroptimist International Willits – who heads up the Sweetheart contest – to receive their packets and instructions for ticket sales.

Expect to see all three girls with pouches in hand Friday morning though the end of June, when the winner is announced at the annual Sweetheart Dinner.

This year's contestants:

Haley Schuck, 485-4043, haleysschuck@willitsunified.com. Read about her in Willits Weekly's April 10 edition.

Emily Leishman, 354-0260. Read about her in Willits Weekly's April 17 edition.

Calayan Knight, 841-6343, calayansweetheartcontestant.14@gmail.com. Read about her in Willits Weekly's April 24 edition.

Furry Friend

Sammy Cat

Meet super mellow and handsome Sammy, who is a complete marshmallow!! He is approximately 3 years old, very friendly, and affectionate. We believe he will make a great companion or family cat for the right home. He loves to be held, and so will most likely do well in a family with children of all ages.

Sammy gets along great with dogs; however he does not like other cats, so he will need to be the only cat in your household. He is already neutered, up-to-date on his vaccinations, and so he's ready to go home

the same day you meet him. We hope you will come meet this sweet guy and give him the loving home he truly deserves!

The Ukiah Animal Shelter is located at 298 Plant Road in Ukiah, and our adoption hours are Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 10 am to 4:30 pm and Wednesday from 10 am to 6:30 pm. The shelter has a new website: www.mendoshelterpets.com; to view our adoptable cats, please visit www.adoptapet.com/shelter71965-cats. For more info, contact Adoption Coordinator Katherine Houghtby at 707-467-6453 or houghtbyk@co.mendocino.ca.us, or come in during shelter hours.



Photo by Katherine Houghtby